



MEMORANDUM

ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY



TREE PLANTING POLICY

SUBJECT: TREE PLANTING POLICY

1. PURPOSE

To provide direction and a formalized process anytime staff, sponsors, partners or user-groups are requesting trees to be planted on County of Erie Park, Recreation & Forestry Department Property.

2. SCOPE

This process will be the standard that will be used and referred to any time trees are being planted on Erie County Park Property.

3. DEFINITIONS

- 3.1 Caliper – Measurement taken six inches above ground level for field grown stock and from the soil line for container grown stock, which should be at or near the top of the root flare, and six inches above the root flare for bare root plants (ANSI Z60.1 American Standard for Nursery Stock)
- 3.2 International Society of Arboriculture (I.S.A.) – Group that promotes the professional practice of arboriculture and fosters a greater worldwide awareness of the benefits of trees

4. REQUIREMENTS

- 4.1 The following list of requirements will be utilized as the preferred parameters so as to provide the highest survival rate for trees being planted
 - 4.1.2 **Irrigation** – A tree watering bag will be required for the first two growing seasons.
 - 4.1.3 **Season** – Typically the County of Erie Park, Recreation & Forestry Department only approves tree plantings to take place during the optimal planting window from **October 15th – May 1st**. All requests for tree plantings outside the established window are subject to approval from the County Forester and would have to be of B&B or Container grown stock and transported using tarps or other appropriate fashion that prevents desiccation of the tree crown.

- 4.1.4 **Tree Selection** – The County of Erie acceptable tree species list is contained herein (Addendum #1) and all trees must have a minimum caliper of 1” to be planted in a maintained lawn area. Conservation type plantings of smaller calliper will be allowed in Natural Regeneration areas.
- 4.1.5 **Site Selection** – Must be approved by the Park Superintendent responsible for that specific park location.
- 4.1.6 **Tree Protection**- A 1-foot diameter welded wire fence cage will be wrapped around the tree to prevent herbivory and damage from Deer rubs.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES

- 5.1 **County Forester** – The County Forester will be available to consult and assist the Park Superintendent for their Tree Planting Event, including approving final tree species and layout. As a certified arborist he/she is recommended to be on-site at the time of the tree planting to ensure all planting practices are following the International Society of Arborist (I.S.A) and Erie County Parks, Recreation & Forestry Standards.
- 5.2 **Park Superintendent** – The Park Superintendent is responsible for recommending the location and layout of the tree planting locations, approving the site preparation plan for the actual tree planting and coordinating that the County Forester is on-site at time of the actual tree planting.
- 5.3 **Deputy Commissioner of Recreation** – The Deputy Commissioner of Recreation will work with Sponsor(s) or Partner(s) to develop a formal Maintenance Agreement, Volunteer Form / Special Event approval, event day planning, programming, social media and volunteer round-up.

Effective Date: January 27, 2021

Approved: _____
Troy P. Schinzel, Erie County Commissioner of Parks, Recreation & Forestry